



5300 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 304, Los Angeles, California 90029 (213) 464-5100

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings in the name of Christ, our Saviour.

This letter is to thank you once again for your contribution to UFMCC World Church Extension 1980 and to update you on the present World Church Extension efforts.

This year has flown by very quickly and has been a very interesting one as far as World Church Extension is concerned. There is movement in various places around Europe and great movement in New Zealand and Nigeria.

I feel we have much to praise the Lord for, for the growth that is coming into Europe. Here in Europe we are not avid Church goers - only 3 percent of the British population ever attend Church and only ½ percent of the Danish and Scandinavian population. As to the rest of Europe, it waivers between the ½ percent and 3 percent. So, as you can imagine, it is a very difficult area, a real mission area.

The visit of Rev. Troy Perry to Britain and Denmark was a great boost to the morale of the M.C.C. groups in both countries. People came from all over Britain to hear Troy and we were able to hold the main service in one of the Anglican Churches in London, where many people heard him. In Denmark he was also well received, although the fundamentalists came out to heckle outside the Church.

The group in Copenhagen is growing. Rev. Bjorn Marcusson has just spent ten days here in England with us, learning more about the Fellowship and sharing with us. Bjorn is also hoping to start a fortnightly service in Malmo, Sweden. There are a group of people there who are interested in gathering together to learn more about God and more about M.C.C.

We have continuing contact with people in Poland. For awhile Stanley, our main contact, was being questioned by the State Police there for his activities, but we praise the Lord that that has now stopped and he seems to be able to move and hold prayer meetings in his home quite easily. Stanley has gathered one or two people together and they are meeting in his home. We have also a contact now in Hungary, a young man who has been visiting London and has now returned to his home country, and he is interested in contacting the group in Poland and trying to work out something for the Eastern Block. Maybe they will be able to all gather together at some point. It is wonderful the way the Lord is working in the Eastern Zone. We have much to praise Him for.

Rev. Jose von Buhler was able to go to Spain earlier this year and meet with the group there that had requested to know more about us. They are so interested that he is going back again in September and will be able to share more with them about U.F.M.C.C. This group has asked that we could keep in close contact with them for one year and after that they would make a decision whether they felt they could affiliate with us or not.

Here in England we continue to grow slowly. It is hard work, there is much ground to be broken. The Lord is opening up new areas to us and we are seeing each group become more established. We do need more workers, more ministers, who can come and help to train people. There are many people who write in asking for help to start groups in outlying areas but at present we have no way of doing this.

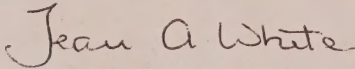
The Reverend Troy D. Perry, Founder

Rev. Sylvanus Maduka, in Nigeria, writes that everything is going very well there. They are growing, they have now seven congregations and they seem to be quite large, they have their own choirs and seem to be forging ahead in everything that they do. However, they do have many needs. One of the needs that Rev. Maduka has on his heart is a maternity clinic to help the people there, and an under-fives clinic as well. Sometimes in our Western countries, we do not realise fully the lack of social services in the African countries.

Rev. Kromer and Rev. Harris are doing very well in New Zealand, they seem to be forging ahead with the group and have had terrific results in Auckland. When they went there the group was practically non-existent and they are now running at about sixty in the congregation on Sunday evenings. They have applied for mission status and I know are hoping to make an application for chartering as a Church later this year. So, there is much to rejoice about and much to praise the Lord for. Sometimes we feel that movement is slow. We would like to be able to jump ahead in leaps and bounds but if we really are living close to the Lord and trusting in Him, He will guide us and lead us in the way that we should go. We will see groups form that have a good nucleus of mature, stable Christians, able to work and to carry on and to be there when the numbers grow and people come in needing help.

So, continue to pray and continue to give, we have a whole world awaiting us, a world which needs the Gospel of Love and Liberation of Jesus Christ.

May God bless you, in Christ's service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean A. White". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Rev. Elder Jean A. White
Executive Secretary for World Church Extension

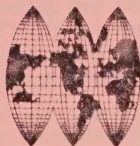
YOUR OFFERING FOR

World
Church
Extension

HELPS

US

GROW!



Thanks for remembering your Special Offering this month. On World Church Extension Sunday your congregation joins with congregations around the Fellowship so that the Good News of God's inclusive love can continue to reach those in the United Kingdom, Western Europe, Mexico, Nigeria and South Africa. May your own church family be blessed with the growth and strength you are helping promote throughout the world.

JERUSALEM MINISTRY AND CRUCIFIXION

The Marcan traditions concerning Jesus' ministry in Jerusalem and the events associated therewith may be broken down in the following daily sequence:²⁸

- Sunday: "Triumphal Entry" (Mark 11:1-11)
- Monday: "Cleansing of the Temple" (Mark 11:12-19)
- Tuesday: (a) Teaching in the Temple (Mark 11:20 to 12:44)
(b) Private Instruction of Peter, James, John, and Andrew (Mark, ch. 13)
- Wednesday: At Bethany (Mark 14:1-11)
- Thursday: The Last Supper, Betrayal, and Hearing Before the High Priest and Sanhedrin (Mark 14:12-72)
- Friday: Trial Before Pilate, Crucifixion, and Burial (Mark, ch. 15)
- Saturday: Sabbath
- Sunday: Visit to the Tomb by the Women (Mark 16:1-8)

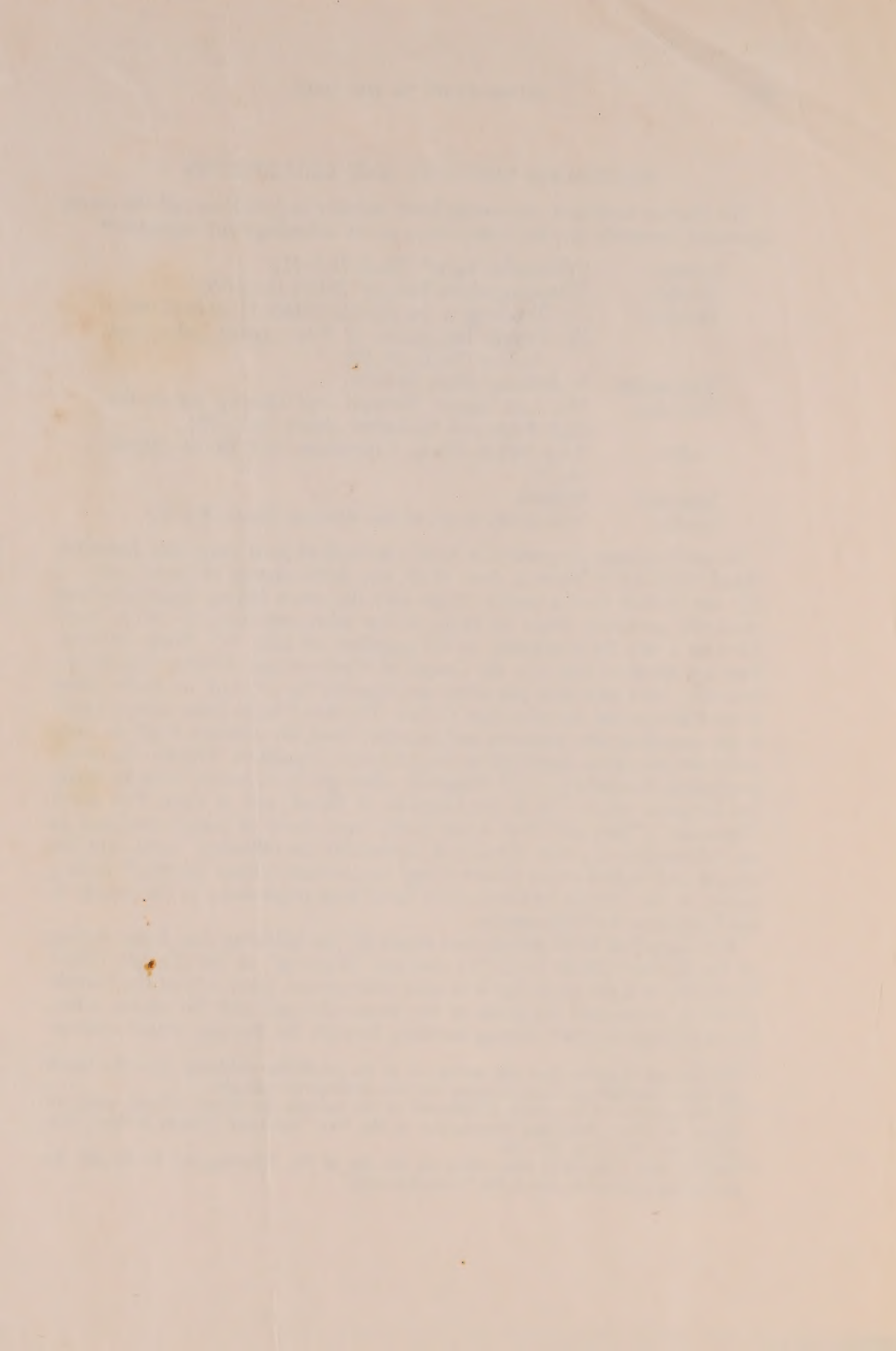
Several emphases are present in Mark's account of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-11).²⁹ There is, first of all, the deliberateness of Jesus' entry. A colt was fetched from a nearby village with the owner having apparently been contacted previously about its usage. It has been customary to see in Jesus' entry on a colt the enactment of the prophecy of Zech. 9:9. Mark, however, does not allude to this; it is the Gospel of Matthew that develops this theme. Secondly, Jesus rode into Jerusalem accompanied by a crowd, no doubt many of his followers and disciples from Galilee. The crowd made Jesus' entry a noted event, spreading their garments and branches along the roadway. Such an entry could not have gone unnoticed by the Jerusalem population. Thirdly, the crowd proclaimed the coming of the Kingdom; although in its present form in Mark, the kingdom referred to is the kingdom of David, not of God. The shout "Hosanna" ("Save us") was a commonly used shout of prayer employed as an acclamation of praise. Jesus, and presumably his followers, "went into the temple; and looked round at everything" and withdrew from the city.³⁰ Such a survey of the Temple precincts must have been preparatory to the events in the Temple on the following day.

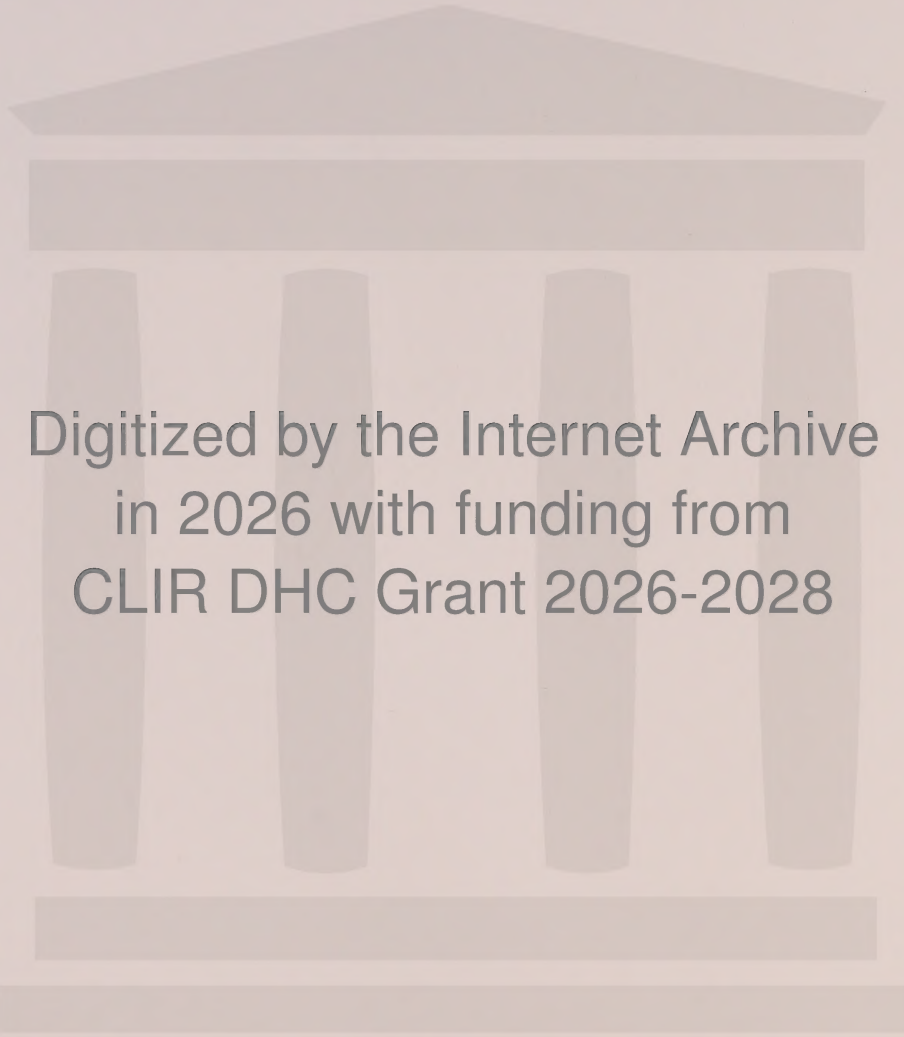
The Gospel of Mark records two events on the following day: Jesus' cursing of the fig tree (Mark 11:12-14) and his "cleansing" of the Temple (Mark 11:15-19). It is the latter that is of most consequence. Jesus entered the Temple precincts, overturned the tables of the money-changers and the pigeon sellers, prevented anyone from carrying anything through the Temple, taught concern-

²⁸ This scheme of course does not correspond to the Jewish day-reckoning, since the Jewish day was calculated from sunset to sunset not from midnight to midnight.

²⁹ On the influence of The Book of Zechariah on the Synoptic description of Jesus' entry, see Robert M. Grant, *Historical Introduction to the New Testament* (Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc., 1963), pp. 350-351.

³⁰ Matthew and Luke differ from Mark on the day of the "cleansing of the temple" by placing this event on the day of the "triumphal entry."





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2026 with funding from
CLIR DHC Grant 2026-2028

<https://archive.org/details/2174.04.11>



“There are some things
you can understand in any language”

UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCHES
5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304
Los Angeles, CA 90029-9990

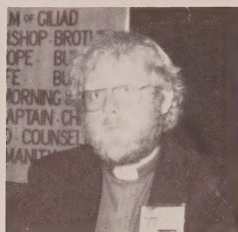
Church Extension work involves extensive travel, communication (by phone and mail); translation of materials; communication of the fundamentals of the gospel and the special ministry of UFMCC cross-culturally; and assistance in the work of organizing, P.R., and outreach through publications, media and personal sharing and caring. It is an enormous task - one of the most important in our Fellowship. We need you to help it happen.

Acceptance, empowerment, community - the liberating love of God in Jesus Christ is something that can be understood in any language! That's what Metropolitan Community Church is all about. The Universal Fellowship began reaching out to gay men and lesbians and all persons who had been alienated from that love and community.

World Church Extension in 1982 is on the threshold of an exciting future. Elder Jean White now works full time in our London Office - visiting Church Extension churches and new or potential extension areas, and is corresponding with hundreds of people the world over. Recently Rev. White reports new inquiries in Southeast Asia, Japan and Haiti.



Rev. Elder Jean White



Rev. Bjorn Marcussen

WESTERN EUROPE: Plans are now being made for an all-European MCC conference in 1982. Participating will be: our churches in the United Kingdom, the new groups in Edinburg and Copenhagen; and interested persons from Ireland, Sweden, Holland, Austria, Portugal, Germany, Belgium, France, Italy, Switzerland and perhaps Poland and Hungary. Many interested MCCers on the continent feel quite isolated, and this conference is an attempt to strengthen and encourage them. The Church Extension Committee in Europe meets regularly to oversee this development.

NIGERIA: Rev. Maduka reports recently that our churches in Imo State are still experiencing the benefits of Elders White and Arehart's visit to them in April 1981. The automobile we purchased has been a great help with the severe transportation problem. World Church Extension is working with Rev. Maduka to arrange for the training of a Nigerian MCC nurse or medical professional. An evangelistic team, with musicians, has begun to visit all seven of our churches. At present we send only \$150 per month for support for Rev. Maduka and our churches there.



Rev. Sylvanus Maduka



Rev. Jan Weymouth

SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS: This newly created extension area also includes our church in Auckland, New Zealand. Rev. Jan Weymouth, from Australia, is the Church Extension Coordinator. At present, this area receives no subsidy from the Fellowship, per se. The new Worship Coordinator of Auckland is Lee Neighbors. Our other contacts in Southeast Asia include several interested persons and church groups in Burma, Indonesia and Malaysia. We know this is going to be an area of great development in the future in MCC. Now is the time to reach out!

HISPANIC AMERICAS: The Hispanic Americas Extension Area is alive and growing. The big news in recent months has been the new group in Mexico City - They now have over 30 people regularly involved. MCC Hispana is doing outreach into New Jersey, where there is great interest. Rev. Jose Mojica is paid a part time salary to oversee this important work as Church Extension Coordinator. This extension area is difficult to oversee because of the necessity of translating all UFMCC materials into Spanish materials, and because the extension area covers the entire North and South Hemispheres of the Americas. Please pray for the Hispanic Americas!



Rev. Jose Mojica

Enclosed is my special designated donation of \$ _____ for:

☐ WORLD CHURCH EXTENSION OFFICE IN LONDON

☐ NIGERIA '82

☐ FUNDS FOR TRAINING MEDICAL PERSONNEL (NIGERIA)

☐ HISPANIC AMERICAS MINISTRY

☐ SOUTHEAST ASIA AND NEW ZEALAND

.....

Please keep me informed of World Church Extension News ☐

“There are some things you can understand in any language.”

WORLD CHURCH EXTENSION

(Fill Out and Return Today)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

I will remember to pray for World Church Extension needs

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____ for the World Church Extension Fund
(See Reverse)

.....



METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH of BOSTON

131 CAMBRIDGE STREET
REV. MARGE RAGONA, PASTOR

BOSTON, MA 02114
(617) 523-7664

February 15, 1982

Dear Members and Friends of MCC Boston:

Each February, the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches asks us to support World Church Extension. Most of us, unless we're really into MCC have absolutely no idea of what this branch of the Fellowship does. The enclosed brochure will help you understand better what is going on in our outreach to people outside continental United States.

We have been part of World Church Extension, although we don't necessarily label it as such. Recently, for example, we raised \$150 to help Rev. Jose Mojica attend a course he badly needed in order to do his job as Director of Hispanic Americas outreach. Some of us have helped MCC Harlem in its beginning outreach to that community. We have heard of an underground MCC which existed as an integrated church in South Africa, and a beginning of an MCC in communist Poland.

There is one more exciting story to tell: Last summer, Rev. Charles Arehart and Rev. Jean White, both elders and Jean is Director of World Church Extension, went to Nigeria to purchase and deliver the Volkswagen automobile which the Fellowship had raised funds for. Originally Rev. Sylvanus Maduka had walked 20 miles each way to supervise his one outlying church -- now he had six! For a while, he rode a motorcycle -- but he has six children also, and it's hard to carry a wife and six children on a motorcycle. Besides, he could use his Volks to supplement his income. It would be a kind of bush taxi, taking people to town for a fare.

Jean White had been a medical missionary in Indochina, and if you have not read her testimony of being captured and tortured for her faith -- and finding out that she was gay and the same missionary society that she had been with when she was tortured turning her away when they found she was gay, we'd be glad to xerox and let you read the story of this exciting woman. Now Jean was visiting Africa -- just as our elder. But she was not prepared for what happened when the people discovered she was a nurse! Folks came from miles around bringing the sick, the injured, babies, children with kwashiorkor -- all sorts of diseases. Jean had a first-aid kit with her, that was all. She sent to a nearby town for a few medical supplies, and she did what she could during the time she was available.

She shared a dream with us at General Conference. What those people need, she felt, was a full-time nurse to provide medical basic care and midwifery skills for the seven villages that MCC serves -- actually one large extended clan of Biafran people. As you will remember, Biafrans are a minority people in that area, and have been sadly oppressed by the other tribes.

Most of us remember the photographs of starving Biafran children, pleading for food, just a few years ago. Our MCC's serve those children and their parents. Many of us looked at the slides Jean and Charlie brought back, and our hearts bled for the kids and for the women, particularly -- hungry, dirty, many diseased with malaria, yaws, parasites. Many of them diseases of inadequate sanitation. In one village, the only water source is a German brick-making factory, which delivers the water used to wash newly baked brick to the community, where it is strained, used to drink, cook with, wash with, irrigate the farms. Sanitation is difficult, almost impossible, under those conditions. Health needs soar.

Some of us who are nurses -- and I, in particular, since I am now working in a Community Health setting, felt the need to assist Jean in raising money for the nursing scholarship. The person chosen would be an African woman, a native of one of the villages MCC serves, who has the education and ability to become a nurse-midwife, who would be educated in England (or in a city in Africa) and would commit herself to return to the villages that are her clan and tribe, and work to better health conditions for them. It would have to be a woman, because she would be attending women in childbirth, something no man does in that area.

Some of you might feel that we would be better off raising money to meet our own financial situation at this time. That's probably true -- but I don't think Christ would have us do that, somehow. I suspect he would want us to be about the business he came to do -- "Be compassionate, as your God is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Pardon and you shall be pardoned. Give, and it shall be given unto you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will they pour into the folds of your garments. For the measure which you measure with will be measured back to you." We need to stop thinking only of ourselves and begin to reach out to others -- maybe even those not of our immediate flock -- and give. Sometimes I think when we are too concerned with our own needs and do not see the needs of others, the wells that supply our needs tend to dry up.

I have committed myself to trying to raise \$500.00 for the nursing scholarship. Will you be part of that? We will be taking this mission offering on February 28th, at a special service honoring Black History Month, and in memory of our dear friend Connie White. I cannot think of a better way to remember Connie than to make a gift to this cause in her name.

A brochure about World Church Extension, a pledge card, and an envelope is enclosed. You may designate your offering to another program of World Church Extension if you wish, as well.

Please give -- in Connie's name, in the name of a needy humanity, and to "spread the word that God is in our land, and they'll know we are Christians by our love."

Rev. Marge Ragona

UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCHES
5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304
Los Angeles, California 90029

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 61665 LOS ANGELES, CA

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

WORLD CHURCH EXTENSION - UFMCC
5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 304
Los Angeles, California 90029



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



WCE

5300 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 304, Los Angeles, California 90029 (213) 464-5100

11 January 1983

A MESSAGE FROM REV. ELDER JEAN A. WHITE

ROMANS 10: 14-16

"How then shall they call on Christ in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent? As it is written, how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things."

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

So many things have happened since last World Church Extension Sunday. So many people have written to me asking for churches to be started in their countries and for literature in their own language.

I would just like to share with you some excerpts from a few of the letters I have received over the past few months, from around the world. They need our love, they need us to reach out.

EGON froms ZWIESEL in GERMANY writes,

"I am 26 years old, catholic, work in an old peoples home. I am looking for a church where homosexual people are welcome. Send me the address of your church in Germany and information in my own language."

KOSHO-IKOMA from OTSU CITY, JAPAN,

"Please send me news of any church in my country which is affiliated to you and literature on how I can be a homosexual, and Christian."

REVEREND LARBIE from MONROVIA, LIBERIA,

"I need to know more about your church and the liberated teachings of the Gospel. There are many people here who need to know that Jesus loves them, regardless of their sexuality, please come and help them."

PROFESSOR of the GENERAL PROTESTANT ALMONRY of the BELGIAN STATE,

"I am very interested in the fraternal (sic) aims of your church, the love of God has to be universal. Can you send me general information about the Church and about the eventuality of becoming a minister in your church."

ALEX ROBBERTZ from JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA,

It was so exciting to talk to you on the telephone this afternoon. Afterwards, I telephoned all the people in my group, and worked them all up to my excitement about MCC. Please send us all the literature and by-laws etc. that you have."

MREEMA from SHIRATI-TAROME, TANZANIA,

We are a free church, believing in the free Gospel for all people. We are interested in establishing a contact with your group in this country, if you have one, if not, can you provide someone to come and help us?

MLEE-PHILLIPE from ARGENTEIUL, FRANCE,

We were so happy to be able to be with you in the London Church last week. When will you be able to send someone to begin a similar work here, there are those of us who would like to worship together, but are not leaders, and we need someone here to guide us.

The above and many others, are cries for help from our Sisters and Brothers, to be able to worship with the same freedom which we enjoy.

As yet, we have no churches in any of these countries, and very little literature in any other languages. So, apart from literature in English and personal letters, there is very little we can do at this time.

YOU can help make these "cries of help" for a pastor, leader, literature or new group become a reality for these people by your gift to World Church Extension this year. Maybe your church could afford to send someone for a year to work in one of these countries, or pay to have fellowship material printed and translated into another language? Or maybe you could commit yourself to a small (or large!) sum each month, to help us reach out to these people with the gospel of liberation.

I know we are in a time of recession all over the world - but, it is our responsibility as Christians to preach the word. If we cannot go in person we could send the written work, that at least those of our Sisters and Brothers will have had the true gospel preached unto them.

Thank you for all the help you have given in the past, and thank you for all the help I believe you will give in the future.

God Bless you,

Jean A. White

Jean A. White
Executive Secretary for
World Church Extension
Member, Board of Elders

*Celebrate World Church Extension Sunday, February 13, 1983
in your local church. Please remember to take a special
offering for this very important work.*